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DR. LEONHARD STEJNEGER

It was concerning one of Dr. Leonhard Stejneger's best known works that Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe wrote the following: "I must emphatically state my conviction that, with the exception of some of Professor Elliott Coues's essays, there has never been a popular work on birds so well conceived as the 'Aves' volume of the "Standard Natural History," or one which, professedly popular in its aims, contains such an amount of sterling new and original work. It differs, moreover, from most recent schemes in giving diagnostic characters for every Order and Family, and is thus entitled to foremost rank as an original work."^a The same year (1885) that the volume on 'Birds' of the Standard Natural History appeared, Dr. Stejneger's exhaustive treatise on the Birds of the Commander Islands and Kamtschatka was published. Previously the well-known *Analecta Ornithologica* was commenced in *The Auk*, and during the years following, the Review of the Birds of Japan came out in instalments in the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum; and in the same publication appeared a number of articles on Hawaiian Birds. Dr. Stejneger has been responsible for a very extensive list of papers, many of them on the more difficult phases of ornithological investigation. His work has been characterized by unusual thoroughness and accuracy, and has undoubtedly greatly influenced, at least in America, our present conceptions of the relationships and classification of birds. During the past decade Dr. Stejneger has devoted a large part of his time to herpetology.

^a A Review of Recent Attempts to Classify Birds. By R. Bowdler Sharpe, L.L. D., F. R. S. Budapest, 1891, p. 24.